

**Session 1**

Preparation and Materials needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Materials needed for this session: Outdoor code cootie catcher sheet, scissors, crayons or markers, Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Pledge to be signed, Outdoor Code and Leave No Pledge Homework for each scout,</li> <li>✓ Set up the room to give the scouts space to write</li> <li>✓ Have the attendance sheet out and ready</li> <li>✓ Review the session to be prepared to lead the discussion. Do not read it to the scouts, be prepared ahead of time to smoothly lead the session.</li> </ul>
Gathering	Outdoor Code Cootie Coloring Pages – Allow the scouts to color, cut, and fold the cootie catcher.
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Pick 2 scouts to hold the flag, 1 scout to lead the Oath, and 1 scout to lead the Law.</li> <li>✓ Ensure all of the scouts are focused and ready to begin</li> </ul>
Talk Time	Introduce the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace
Activity	Activity: Forest Tag
Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Point out positive behaviors and activities shown during this session.</li> <li>✓ Tell the scouts what next session will be.</li> <li>✓ Have the scouts clean up the room</li> <li>✓ Homework - Outdoor Code/Leave No Trace Pledge Outdoor Code Cootie Catcher</li> </ul>
After the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Enter the advancements per rank. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiger – Tigers in the Wild 1, 3a, &amp; 3b</li> <li>• Wolf – Paws on the Path 1</li> <li>• Bear – None</li> <li>• Webelos – Webelos Walkabout 2 &amp; 5</li> <li>• Arrow of Light – None</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ Enter attendance</li> <li>✓ Turn in any needed documents into the district/council</li> <li>✓ Call, text, or e-mail 2 parents to share something positive about their scout. Make sure every scout has a positive comment before you return to these scouts.</li> </ul>

**Gathering: Outdoor Code Cootie Catcher**

**Talk Time: Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace Pledge**

Every Scout who is spending time outdoors should be familiar with the Outdoor Code. It is especially important for Webelos, Boy Scouts, and Venturers who are out camping regularly.

Today we are going to focus on the Outdoor code, Leave No Trace pledge.

Who has ever heard of the Outdoor code or Leave no Trace Pledge? What do you know about it?

*Allow the scouts to respond and encourage any positive responses. Webelos should know the Outdoor Code and should be able to say it.*

Together we are going to say the Outdoor Code and the Leave No Trace Pledge. After we read it we are all going to sign both of them. When we sign or write our names we are promising to live by these words. Then to remember what it Developed at Crossroads of America Council - After School District - Lead by Josette Crawford

says, your homework is to take a copy of the code and pledge home and show it to your adult partner and have them sign it.

### **The Outdoor Code**

(The breakdown of the Outdoor Code is the one from the Webelos Handbook)

#### **As an American I will do my best to**

##### **Be clean in my outdoor manners**

- I will treat the outdoors as a heritage.
- I will take care of it for myself and others.
- I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.

##### **Be careful with fire**

- I will prevent wildfire.
- I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.
- When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out.
- I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire.

##### **Be considerate in the outdoors**

- I will treat public and private property with respect.
- I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.

##### **Be conservation minded**

- I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands, wildlife, and energy.
- I will urge others to do the same.

**Leave No Trace** might seem unimportant but it is something you can follow in your everyday life, even if you aren't camping. Leaving no trace is everyone's responsibility.

#### **1. Know Before You Go:**

Planning and preparation will help you enjoy your time outdoors while limiting your impact on the environment.

- Only take the things you will need.
- Plan your trip so you don't forget anything and have to make more than one trip.

#### **2. Choose the Right Path**

- Make sure you are staying in a familiar and safe area.
- Respect other people's property.
- Stick to the path.

#### **3. Trash Your Trash:**

- Not only your trash, but any that you find along the way.

#### **4. Be Careful With Fire:**

- As Cub scouts, you should not be doing anything with fire without a responsible adult helping you.
- Always stay a safe distance from the fire.
- Make sure the area around a fire is safe: use a fire pit when possible, make sure there is nothing near (on the ground and above) that can catch fire.
- Have a bucket of water or hose ready in case the fire gets out of control.
- Make sure the fire is completely out before leaving the area.

**5. Respect Wildlife:**

- Observe wildlife from a distance to avoid disturbing them. You are too close if an animal alters its normal activities.
- Store food and garbage away from animals so they can't get to it.
- Never feed wildlife. Help keep wildlife wild.

**6. Be Kind to Other Visitors:**

- Keep the noise down.
- Respect private property and leave gates (open or closed) as found.
- Be considerate of others and respect their privacy.

**Activity: In the Forest Tag**

Instructions:

1. Designate a fairly small area for the game to be played.
2. Choose one person to be "It."
3. This is played like regular tag, but a player can be "be safe" by crouching down and naming a plant or animal that lives in the forest.
4. As long as the same person is "It" there can be no naming repeats. If a person can't think of a plant or animal, and is tagged, that person becomes "it" and all plants and animals can be used again.

**Closing:**

Hand out the Out Door Code and Pledge to go home. The scouts should bring it back signed at the next session. At the next session we will learn about animals, bugs, birds, plants, and trees we might see when hiking in Indiana.

*(note: this session has been mostly sitting down. Play an active game from the BSA game section to end the session.)*